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French Electricity Industry's Proposals to foster the decarbonisation of the EU building stock

The French Electricity Industry (UFE) has put specific proposals for **a "Renovation Wave" (RW) initiative leading to the decarbonisation of the EU existing building stock** while improving the comfort of European citizens.

DECARBONISE the EU building stock in line with the EU Green Deal

To reach carbon neutrality by 2050, the RW must adopt a climate-centric approach, enhance the integration of renewable energies and build a resilient and energy-efficiency building stock.

Key actions needed:

Consolidated Energy Efficiency Directive 2012/27/EU (EED)

• Articles 3 and 7: UFE recommends revising these articles and adding mandatory requirements to reduce GHG emissions and energy consumption for the renovation of existing residential and tertiary buildings. In article 7, the introduction of a CO2 component will increase the consistency between energy efficiency savings and climate objectives.

Article 5:

- UFE supports an extension of article 5 of the EED to all public buildings (not only those owned or occupied by central governments) to prioritise the renovation of public buildings.
- A new target in terms of energy consumption, rather than only in terms of renovated areas should be set by 2030 compared to a year of reference in the article 5 of the EED.

Renewable Energies Directive 2018/2001/EU (REDII)

The revision of the REDII must support the development of RES applications for existing housings as a
replacement for fossil-fuels. UFE supports a revision of articles 23(1) and 24(4a) to incorporate a more
ambitious and binding target to increase the share of renewable energy in the heating and cooling
sector.

Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU (EPBD)

- Criteria to reduce GHG emissions of buildings should be introduced the Energy Performance
 Certificates in article 11 of the EPBD to give the same importance to carbon criteria as to energy
 efficiency.
- The notion of winter and summer comfort should be introduced in the Energy Performance Certificates as defined in the article 11(2) of the EPBD by adding in the recommendations provisions on thermal comfort (i.e. tools avoiding long periods of extreme-low or high temperatures in the buildings).



REMOVE the remaining barriers to funding

The RW must address the quality of the projects and the access to funding.

Key actions needed:

European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF)

• UFE calls for the revision of the ESIF to stimulate investments in energy efficiency by enhancing synergies with Energy Performance Contracting (EPC). The ESIF can greatly contribute to addressing market gaps in the access to finance for EPC providers by guaranteeing an easier access to long-term investment and reducing risks. UFE believes the ESIF should deliver loans or guarantee products at preferential conditions and with standardised contracts to improve energy efficiency in buildings.

EMPOWER citizens to reduce the energy consumption and energy bills of final consumers

The RW needs to improve the access of final consumers to available information on energy consumption

Key actions needed:

Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU (EPBD)

• UFE recommends reopening the EPBD to add a mandatory reference to final energy in the Energy Performance Certificates in order to make it consistent with the article 3 of the EED.

Energy Efficiency Directive 2012/27/EU (EED)

• UFE supports a revision of article 9 of the EED and articles 19 and 20 as well as Annex II of the Directive Electricity 2019/944/EU to foster the development of smart meter solutions. They contribute enhancing the access of consumers to their data and uses on final energy consumption.

ACCELERATE the deployment of charging infrastructure in existing buildings

The electrification of transport can significantly improve air quality and reduce the GHG emissions of vehicles throughout the lifecycle. **The RW must therefore contribute to speeding up the roll-out of charging infrastructure in public and private buildings** given that 90% of EV charging takes place at home or in the workplace and 80% of Europe's existing building stock will still be in use in 2050.

Key actions needed:

Energy Performance of Buildings Directive 2010/31/EU (EPBD)

• UFE asks for a reopening of article 8 of the EPBD to address the remaining barriers to the installation of charging points by guaranteeing the right-to-plug and enhancing the possibilities for the tenant and co-owner to install EV charging points in their housings.